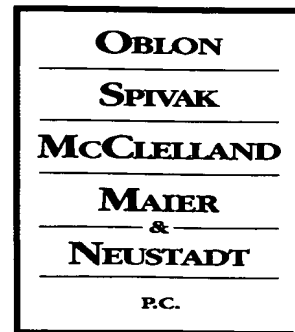


Docket No.: 242548US2

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

MARVIN J. SPIVAK
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RE: Application Serial No.: 10/656,280

Applicants: Tatsuya NIIMI, et al.

Filing Date: September 8, 2003

For: ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS,
PROCESS CARTRIDGE FOR
ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, AND
IMAGE FORMING METHOD

Group Art Unit: 2852

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

First Office Action Status Request (in duplicate)

Our check in the amount of \$0 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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DOCKET NO.: 242548US2/sta



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Tatsuya NIIMI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/656,280

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FOR: ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, PROCESS CARTRIDGE FOR
ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, AND IMAGE FORMING
METHOD

FIRST OFFICE ACTION STATUS REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to inform the undersigned of the
approximate date a first Official Action will be issued in this Application.

A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

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